LAMORINDA WEEKLY

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**Fire Districts** 

### Moraga-Orinda Fire District

Board of Directors Wednesday, Nov. 7, 7 p.m. Go to the website for meeting location, times and agendas. Visit www.mofd.org



## **Public Meetings**

### ConFire

Board of Directors Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1:30 p.m. Board Chamber room 107, Administration Building, 651 Pine St., Martinez. For meeting times and agendas, visit http://alturl.com/5p9pu.

## Lafayette residential occupancy fire inspections nearly complete **By Nick Marnell**



ConFire Capt. Steve Aubert prepares to inspect the post indicator valve. Photos Nick Marnell

he Contra Costa County Fire Protection District made

erty first, such as residential care homes.

With improved finances and a sharper focus on the lagged inspections, ConFire hired four new fire inspectors in the summer and reassigned two inspectors from the engineering department to help out with the backlog; it also stopped assisting the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District with fire inspections in order to concentrate on its own workload. ConFire then hired several temporary clerks to input the data for the field inspectors, which allowed the inspectors to spend more time in the field. The district also added a temporary fire fire roads were properly marked, inspector.

The larger staff allowed Con-Fire to complete its inspections of the 11 Lafayette education facilities in June and to tackle the inspections of the city's 159 commercial residential structures.

A random review of Lafayette inspection reports, from a ensuring an adequate water supfourplex on Bickerstaff Street to ply. the iconic Lafayette Park Hotel, showed that the most common into individual apartments," Auviolations included failure to service fire extinguishers, inspect sprinkler systems and test fire alarms. Occasionally, a structure received a "No violations" report, as did the building on Bickerstaff. The hotel was cited for repairs needed on its fire doors,

which must not only close but latch shut to stop smoke and fire from spreading into corridors and stairs. "We installed new hallway carpet with a higher pile so the doors were not completely closing on their own," said Nick Bozych, Lafayette Park Hotel general manager. "The doors were shaved and the doors close properly now."

Fire Prevention Capt. Steve Aubert conducted an inspection of a Lafayette apartment complex. "We don't schedule these visits. You want to see things on their worst day," he said.

Aubert first checked that the and that the fire hydrants were not blocked. He saw the structure had a sprinkler system, so he checked the post indicator valve – the valve that controls the sprinkler system. It was operational. The fire department connection inlets were accessible and functioning,

"We are not allowed to go

# **Police Departments**

Moraga Police Department Incident Summary Report Oct. 9 - Oct. 14 Alarms 5 911 Calls (includes hang-ups) 1 Traffic 35 Suspicious Circumstances 7 Suspicious Subject 4 Suspicious Subject 4 Suspicious Vehicle 2 Service to Citizen 20 Patrol Request/ Security Check 8 Supplemental Report 5 Welfare Check 4	O Ir O Al 91 Tr Su Su Su Su Su Su Su
Vehicle violations	Va W
DUI Misd Moraga Rd./Corliss Dr. Excessive Speed Rheem Blvd./Park St. Moraga Way/Camino Ricardo	Ve At
Hit And Run Felony Safeway	H
Reckless Driving Seven Eleven Rheem Blvd./Moraga Rd. Traffic Hazard Somewhere on Moraga Rd St. Marys Rd./Bollinger Canyon	Re
Other criminal activity	Tł
Battery Campolindo High School Shoplift Safeway Vandalism Joaquin Moraga Int. School	Tr
Nuisance to the Community	
Civil Disturbance 400 Block Center St. Loud Music	Ve
100 Block Donald Dr. Public Assembly Check	0
500 Block Moraga Rd. Public Nuisance	Ba
Via Granadaiquintas Ln.	D
<u>Other</u>	
Mentally Ill Commit St. Mary's College	G
Williams Dr./Haven Ct.	G
	Id
	Pe
was tested. Aubert checked the	re
horn strobe system, which pro- duces flashing light and a loud	Pe



Orinda Police Department	
Incident Summary Report	
Oct. 7 - Oct. 20	
Alarms49911 Calls (includes hang-ups)7	
<b>911 Calls (includes hang-ups)</b> 7 <b>Traffic</b> 96	
Suspicious Circumstances 8	
Suspicious Subjects 12	
Suspicious Vehicles 13	
Patrol Request/ Security Check 29	
Service to Citizen 37	
Supplemental Report 19	
Vacation House Check 26	
Welfare Check 7	
Vehicle violations	
Auto Burglary	
Bates Blvd./Davis Rd.	
Orinda Theater	
Hit And Run Misdemeanor	
Rite Aid	
Reckless Driving	
Beverages And More	
Moraga Way/Coral Dr.	
San Pablo Dam Rd./Bear	
Creek Rd.	
Camino Pablo/Claremont Ave.	
Moraga Way/Ivy Dr.	
Throw From Moving Vehicle	
Barbara Rd./Spring Rd.	
Traffic Hazard	
100 Block Block Rheem Blvd.	
Rheem Blvd./Glorietta Blvd.	
100 Block Spring Rd.	
Moraga Way/Eastwood Dr.	
Estates Dr./Orchard Rd.	
Safeway	
Vehicle Theft	
500 Block Tahos Rd.	
Other criminal activity	
Battery	
Wilder Sports Fields	
Dependent Adult Abuse	
Orinda Senior Village	
10 Block Ramona Dr.	
Grand Theft	
Safeway	
Grand Theft From Vehicle	
Wilder Sports Fields	
Identity Theft	
First Republic Bank	
Petty Theft	
Del Rey School	
Police Department	
Petty Theft From Vehicle	
10 Block Idyll Ct.	

Vandalism 10 Block Orinda Wav Nation's 80 Block Davis Rd. Camino Pablo/North Ln. 600 Block Crossridge Terrace

Warrant Arrest

several changes to its fire prevention bureau in order to catch up on past due fire inspections and Fire Chief Jeff Carman has assured Lafayette residents that all mandated residential occupancy inspections will have been completed by the end of the year.

Schools and residential occupancies with three or more dwelling units are subject to mandatory annual fire inspections. The district fell behind with its inspections after the recession due to budget cutbacks and the inability to hire qualified personnel and, according to Carman, ConFire had to prioritize the inspections, doing those that could cause the largest loss of life and propbert said, as he inspected the indoor common areas, corridors, hallways and elevators. He found his first violation along one of the inside walls: the fire extinguisher was not stamped as tested.

Fire rated doors were inspected for smoke seals. The elevator



Aubert tests the fire department connection.

layperson would probably never think twice about.

"Our job is to educate the property owners and managers. They aren't trained in any of this," Aubert said.

noise to alert those inside or out-

side the building. The captain

inspected the fire alarm control

panel – the controlling component

which makes sure all systems are

being monitored. He checked for

lighting on exit signs, and pointed

out numerous other items that a

In October, ConFire saw the departure of its fire marshal, who had assured management that all mandated residential fire inspections were on track for completion by Dec. 31. Not wanting to lose momentum, Carman immediately appointed Deputy Chief Lewis Broschard as the interim fire marshal, a job Broschard previously held for the district.

"We are both working on the basis that the inspections will be done by that date," Carman said.

7700 Block Edgewater Dr. Oakland

Nuisance to the Community Disturbing the Peace Brookside Rd./Moraga Way Drunk In Public Beverages And More Loud Music

10 Block La Campana Rd. (2) Loud Music

Lombardy Ln./Irving Ln. Loud Noise

Ivy Dr./Moraga Way Loud Party

Lombardy Ln./Van Ripper Ln. Phone Harass

40 Block Ivy Dr.

Public Nuisance

Camino Pablo/Miner Rd. School Assembly Check Sleepy Hollow School MHS(3)

Del Rey Elementary

Orinda Intermediate School

#### <u>Other</u>

Accident Injury Woodland Rd./Moraga Way Moraga Way/Coral Dr. Wilder Sports Fields Accident Property 400 Block Moraga Way 100 Block Glorietta Blvd. Police Department Panhandling Nation's

ConFire's Carman named fire chief of the year

**By Nick Marnell** 



Lamo archive Jeff Carman he California Fire Chiefs Association named Contra Costa County Fire Protection

its 2018 statewide fire chief of which doubles as the ConFire the year at its annual conference board of directors, recognized in Sacramento. The Ronny Jack Carman during its Oct. 9 meet-Coleman award is named after ing. retired State Fire Marshal Ronny Coleman and recognized Carman fire chiefs association and fire as a role model for all fire chiefs in the state as demonstrated through his leadership and management, not only with ConFire but also regionally and statewide.

"We are so proud that Chief Carman has been recognized for his achievements," said Karen Mitchoff, chair of the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. "We are fortunate to have him serve our community, and congratulate him and those who support him on this special recognition from his peers." The different local strike teams had

District Chief Jeff Carman as county board of supervisors,

Jeff Meston, president of the chief of the South Lake Tahoe Fire Department, specifically praised Carman's efforts in securing state funding for prepositioning of local strike teams and for the formation of the Alliance, the partnership between ConFire and American Medical Response to deliver emergency medical service to the bulk of Contra Costa County. "Agencies all over the state are watching the progress of that EMS model," said Meston, who also noted that 22

been prepositioned throughout the state by mid-October thanks in large part to Carman's efforts. Fire resources have been prepositioned four times throughout Contra Costa County in response to red flag warnings this fire season

"It was quite a surprise," Carman told his Advisory Fire Commission Oct. 8 of the award. "I haven't done anything on my own, but it's been a team effort. And I hope that we can continue that effort. I accept that award on behalf of the whole organization."

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